

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SAM-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EEC, PO

SUBJECT:ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL

1. THE US AND EC (BOTH THE COMMISSION AND THE ITALIAN

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PRESIDENCY) HAVE AGREED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF COORDINATING

OUR VIEWS ON ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. WE WOULD FORESEE A SERIES OF PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS AND ARE PREPARING A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF PORTUGAL'S ASSISTANCE NEEDS OVER BOTH THE SHORT- AND LONG-TERM WHICH WE HOPE TO PROVIDE SHORTLY AS THE BASIS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION. AS THE FIRST STEP, USEC AND EMBASSY ROME ARE ASKED TO OFFICIALLY ADVISE THE COMMISSION AND ITALIANS RESPECTIVELY OF US AID PACKAGE ANNOUNCED BY WHITE HOUSE OCTOBER 10.

2. TALKING POINTS:

-- IN HIS MEETING WITH THE PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER ON OCTOBER 10, THE SECRETARY OF STATE EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE RECENT EFFORTS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER PORTUGUESE LEADERS IN UNDERTAKING TO RESTORE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT TO PORTUGAL. HE ALSO EXPRESSED SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PROBLEMS OF THE ANGOLAN REFUGEES.

-- AS A DEMONSTRATION OF US CONCERN FOR THESE DISPLACED PERSONS, AND AS A DEMONSTRATION OF US SUPPORT FOR THE POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL, THE SECRETARY INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT:

- THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AS A FIRST STEP WILL REQUEST AUTHORITY FROM CONGRESS TO PROVIDE \$35 MILLION IN GRANT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL TO SUPPLEMENT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO RETURNEES FROM ANGOLA; IF DEVELOPMENTS WARRANT WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS;

- THE US IS PREPARED TO DOUBLE NOW ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE EVACUATION OF PORTUGUESE NATIONALS FROM ANGOLA. THIS WILL RAISE THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED IN AMERICAN PLANES TO A DAILY AVERAGE OF 1100-1200; THE INCREASED US PARTICIPATION IN THE AIRLIFT WILL BEGIN ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 14. SINCE THE FIRST AMERICAN AIRCRAFT WERE PROVIDED ON SEPTEMBER 7, APPROXIMATELY 13,000 PERSONS HAVE BEEN EVACUATED FROM ANGOLA UNDER US AUSPICES;

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- THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK IS INCREASING THE SIZE OF ITS LOANS AND GUARANTEES TO MAKE POSSIBLE THE PURCHASE OF A BOEING 747 AIRCRAFT FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL AIRLINE (TAP);

- THE ABOVE PROJECTS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE \$35 MILLION PROGRAM (LOAN, GRANT AND GUARANTY) WHICH WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON JUNE 30 FROM FY 1975 FUNDS;

- THE US WILL BE CONSULTING WITH THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT
IN THE MONTHS AHEAD ON ITS ECONOMIC NEEDS;

- WE BELIEVE THAT THE US ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLEMENTS
THAT OF THE EC-9 AND LOOK FORWARD TO A CONTINUING EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS WITH THE EC ON THIS SUBJECT. KISSINGER

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